



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



July 13, 2012

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR A
SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA LOS ANGELES
TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT SERVICES FOR MALE INMATES
UNDER THE FREEDOM THROUGH A SECOND CHANCE PROJECT**

SUBJECT

This letter provides advance notification to your Board that the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) intends to enter into negotiations for a Sole Source Agreement (Agreement) with Volunteers of America Los Angeles (VOALA) to provide male inmates with various therapeutic programs, without engaging in a competitive solicitation process. The project is funded in part by a grant from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP), which expires on September 30, 2012.

BACKGROUND

The Department has recognized the need for effective substance abuse and mental health treatment for Los Angeles County (County) jail inmates who are in-and-out of custody due to the lack of jail-based and post-release treatment services.

In response to this need, the Department established the Freedom Through A Second Chance Project (Project). On June 30, 2011, the Department submitted a grant application in response to OJP's solicitation for the Second Chance Re-entry Grant (Grant). The Grant was awarded to the Department on September 15, 2011, and on November 8, 2011, your Board approved and delegated authority to the Sheriff to

A Tradition of Service

execute the Grant. The grant period is for one year from October 1, 2011, through September 30, 2012.

Upon award of the Grant, budget documents and a justification to sole source with VOALA were submitted to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for approval. On April 16, 2012, the Department received approval from BJA to non-competitively award an agreement with VOALA.

The Department will be seeking your Board's approval for an Agreement with VOALA to implement the Project at the Department's Men's Central Jail (MCJ). The Project includes, but is not limited to, comprehensive treatment planning, pre-release substance abuse treatment, recovery and relapse prevention, and cognitive behavioral therapeutic programs to combat recidivism issues of male County inmate participants. VOALA will also administer post-release services to ensure that inmate participants are adequately prepared for re-entry into the community.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The projected cost of the Agreement with VOALA is estimated at \$737,744. The Agreement includes Grant funding of \$368,872 from OJP with an in-kind match of \$368,872 from the Inmate Welfare Fund for treatment programs and post-release aftercare services to County inmate participants at MCJ for the term of one year.

SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

Given the short one-year duration of the Grant, and the Department's desire to utilize the time most efficiently and effectively, the Department believes it is in the County's best interest to enter into negotiations for a Sole Source Agreement with VOALA. The Department requires any person who enters a County jail facility to provide services to submit to a background check, which takes approximately two weeks to complete, and attend a four-hour orientation course. Current VOALA employees working on other programs in the County jails have been cleared through the background check process and have attended the mandatory orientation, which will avoid delay in the implementation of this Project. If the Department were to engage in a competitive solicitation, the process could take 18 months or longer causing a delay in implementing the Project. Given the short time period of the Grant, there is not enough time to complete a competitive solicitation process.

VOALA has demonstrated a thorough understanding of the Department's jail system and programs that are tailored to the participants. VOALA has been a partner in the "Just In Reach" and "Jail In Reach" Programs, as well as many others dealing with the

re-entry of inmates. They have successfully implemented programs with the California Department of Corrections and have operated half-way houses.

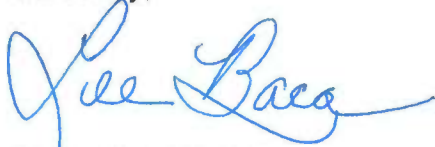
Since 1998, VOALA has provided many programs and services to County jail inmates, through various grants, to assist in the reduction of recidivism. For example, in assisting the Department with its program to combat homelessness, VOALA volunteered their services in taking recently released inmates to their Los Angeles drop-in center. VOALA has operated a 24-hour shuttle system between the Department's Inmate Reception Center and their drop-in center, in addition to providing a special shuttle for inmates who are released between pick-up times. VOALA has also transported recently released inmates to residential and outpatient treatment programs, as well as other service-based sites. In addition, VOALA managed several custody-based programs in the County jails including the GRACE Project, a Federal program designed to provide dignity to terminally ill and end-of-life inmates.

VOALA has shown great efficiency and flexibility in meeting the Department's requests for services for over a decade, and is in a unique position to meet the requirements set forth in the Grant.

CONCLUSION

Pursuant to Board policy, the Department will engage in Sole Source negotiations with VOALA in two weeks unless otherwise instructed by your Board. Should additional information be requested, your staff may contact Manager Angelo Faiella, Contracts Unit at (323) 526-5183.

Sincerely,



LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF